

Express Mail Label No. ER620043514US

PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No.: 11502/33

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re application of:**

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned ) Art Unit  
Filed: November , 2003 ) 3731  
For: STAPLE AND ANVIL ANASTOMOSIS SYSTEM )  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
AND  
REQUEST FOR INTERFERENCE DECLARATION

BOX: RESPONSE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.